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Our Next Break:

School closes at 3.15pm on Thursday 2nd April 2026.
We reopen at 8.45am on Monday 20th April 2026



Thought for the Week:

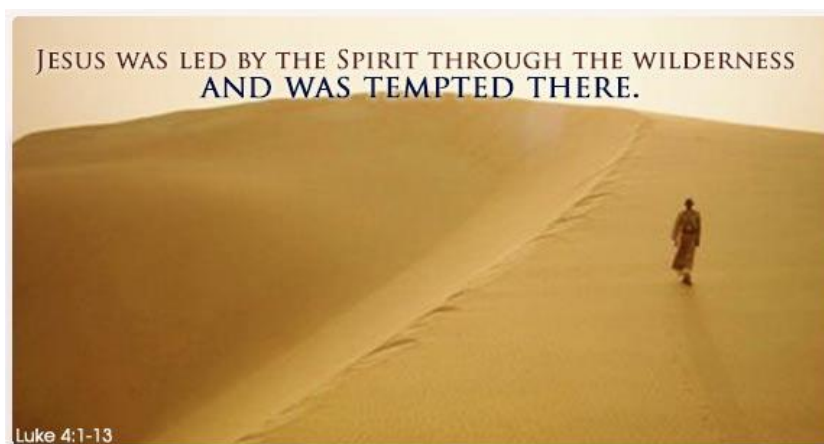
Please chat through at home with your child(ren) the school's Thought for the Week which is:

In Lent I know I fast, pray more and give alms.

To mark the beginning of Lent: Luke 4:1-13

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus went into the desert to pray and be close to God. He stayed there for 40 days and during that time he had nothing to eat because he was fasting. He looked at the stones around him knowing he could turn them into bread. He chose not to.

He knew he could make himself king over all the desert. He chose not to.
He knew on his return to Jerusalem he could leap from the roof of the temple and God would send his angels to save him, showing his power. He chose not to.



The Sacramental Programme

The next date is to attend is:

Sunday 8th March 11am Mass at St Osmund's Church.

All dates for the Sacramental Programme can be found [here](#)

Break the Rules Day

On Friday 27th February (this week) we will be holding a Break the Rules Day to raise funds for CAFOD. **£1 per rule or £5 for as many rules as you'd like to break!**



World Book Day - Thursday 5th March

Our theme this year is "Books Under the Stars". It will be all about cosy reading. Children can come in their pyjamas or anything cosy and bring their torches to read in the book corners and dens throughout the school. Children to bring in a book to read (please put the child's name in the book).

Please can children bring suitable footwear and a coat for playtimes. Children will be bringing home National Book Tokens which they can use to choose a free World Book Day book at participating shops.

Sustainable Easter Garden Competition

We are asking children to make a **sustainable** Easter Garden this year. The competition is open to all year groups with prizes given to the winner of each year class. An information leaflet has been emailed home with a 'How To Guide'.

Ideas of what you may need:

- An old plant pot
- Two twigs/sticks to make a cross
- Twine or wool to hold the cross together
- Soil or compost
- Stones
- Cress or any other seed/living plant
- Water

Please bring in your pots on **Tuesday 31st March** with judging happening on **Wednesday 1st April** and prizes given to the winning Easter Gardens on **Thursday 2nd April**.



DATES FOR DIARY

Below are important Dates for Diary for the next few weeks.

27.2.26 – Break the Rules Day for CAFOD

5.3.26 – World Book Day

More dates for diaries can be found [here](#).

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

All parents and Carers invited into school to watch their children: 9am start

- **Foundation** – Friday 1st May
- **Class 1** - Friday 13th February
- **Year 3** - Friday 22nd May
- **Year 4** – Friday 19th June
- **Year 6 (Leavers)** Assembly Thursday 16th July

ROLL OF HONOUR

Class Awards

Attendance Award goes to the class with the best attendance – **Class 3A 98.33%**
Caritas Award for the Class of the Week, for politeness and showing Love, Faith and Hope – **4A**
Golden Bin for the class who have kept their classroom the tidiest – **3O**
House Points – well done to **Blue House** for winning this week!

Roll of Honour – Half Term Awards!

The parents of all children on the Roll of Honour for getting a certificate are warmly invited to our school assembly on Monday at 9am to see their child receive their award.

Foundation: Miller G for amazing learning in Maths. Well done Miller!

Markus R for showing increasing confidence in Phonics. Well done Markus!

Year 1: Franki B for amazing effort on the carpet this week, answering lots of questions and listening.

Year 1 / 2: Connor R for trying hard with his writing and some good answers describing Spring animals.

Year 2: Isabella W for her super effort in our English topic all about The Twits. She has pushed herself every day to improve her sentences and descriptions, well done Isabella!

3O: Aria L for excellent work in Maths learning and understanding about fractions. Well done Aria.

3A: Penelope R for persevering with her learning of fractions and trying her best, well done!

4O: Esme H for brilliant effort in every aspect of her learning. Well done!

4A: Anthony R-Z for showing huge effort with all his work.

5O: Clarissa W for fabulous engagement in lessons and working well as a team during our robotics lessons. Well done Clarissa!

5A: Eryk P for super work on fractions!

6O: Emily N for being an excellent role model and for trying her absolute best in everything she does

6A: Savannah C for her attitude to learning in maths and improving her arithmetic score! Great job!

Guitarist of the Half Term: Freddie McC (4A) for performing a piece of music today with ease.

Handwriting and Presentation Award: Arthur P (Class 2)

Reading Award: Harry P 6A

Assistant Head Teacher Award: Conor R (Class 1/2) for making superb progress forming his letters! ★

Deputy Head Teacher Award: Maisie R (Class 1/2) for always following the school rules and being a good role model to others.

Head Teacher Award: Frankie S (6A) for showing patience and resilience.

‘But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded’

The Gospel Reading of the Week
Matthew 5:17-37
Please share this with your child.



Jesus said, "If someone hits you, do not hit them back, instead you must forgive them and try to be their friend. Learn to love your enemies and to pray for anyone who wishes you harm. It is easy to love someone who loves you back, but it is hard to love someone who hurts you. Try to be like God our Father, who always forgives. If you do this, others will see God's goodness in you, and my father in Heaven will be very pleased."

Jubilee Pledge

We are making the Jubilee Pledge!

As part of the Jubilee Year, we are called to make the Jubilee Pledge this summer. With an invitation that came from Pope Francis to be 'Pilgrims of Hope', we are joining together with all Catholic schools and committing to be a 'sign of hope'. Together with all Catholic schools, we are promising to put faith into action, be agents of change and work for the good of all.

The Jubilee Pledge:

We are pilgrims of hope. We walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers worldwide, sharing challenges and celebrating joys. We promise to be agents of change, working together for justice, love and peace, locally and globally. We want to build a fairer world, where every person, and the earth, can flourish.

Wednesday Word

The latest edition of the Wednesday Word can be found [here](#).



Prayers

Sometimes we all need that extra support and as a school we come together every day to say prayers.

If you would like the school community to pray for you, your family, friends or any other intentions please email the office (office@ss-osands.bolton.sch.uk), speak to the office or write a little note and send it in with your child.

You do not need to write a prayer if you don't wish to, just your intention. For example: please pray for my friend who is having difficulties at this time; please pray for my grandma who is in hospital; please pray for the people of Ukraine etc. We will not mention your name or other names if you do not wish us to but we can add your prayer intentions to our prayers in class and in assembly.

ATTENDANCE

Well done to **Class 3A** who had the highest attendance before half term. Their attendance was 98.33%

Whole school attendance during before half term was as follows:

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Foundation | 95.11% |
| Class 1 | 96.52% |
| Class 1/2 | 94.44% |
| Class 2 | 94.67% |
| 30 | 95.56% |
| 3A | 98.33% |
| 40 | 97% |
| 4A | 89.67% |
| 50 | 96.45% |
| 5A | 96.55% |
| 60 | 90% |
| 6A | 94.83% |
| Whole School | 94.77% |



PARISH INFORMATION

Mass Times this Weekend

- Saturday: 5.30pm at St Osmund's
- Sunday: 9.30am at St Teresa's
- Sunday: 11.00am at St Osmund's

The latest Parish Newsletter and further Parish information, please visit the Parish [website](#).

Our Mission Statement

Together in **Love**, Growing in **Faith**, A journey of **Hope**.
 Together in **Love**, **Faith** and **Hope**.

St Osmund was a bishop. In **Faith**, he inspires us to pray.
 St Andrew was an apostle. In **Love**, he inspires us to serve.

Blessed Dominic Barberi was a student. In **Hope**, he inspires us to work hard to become the best we can be.

Parent Support

Parent / Family Support

At school, we receive lots of information about various support / family groups which are held within our community. We have created a dedicated page on our website where parents can access this information [SS Osmund & Andrew's RCP School - Community Groups](#)

Mental Health

Please see Bolton Council's website on Mental Health for support and ideas on how to look after ourselves. Please go to <https://www.bekindtomymind.co.uk>

Woodbridge SEND Parent Workshops

Woodbridge SEND Service are running various parent workshops, for example 'Supporting Your Child's Self-Regulation' and 'Neurodiversity Family Support'. Please use the following link to search and book these or future courses: [Training | Woodbridge SEND](#)

This Week's Reminders:

Uniform

Please can you ensure that your child's name is in their uniform. We seem to accumulate a lot of lost property and without names, it is very difficult to return the items to their owner. Please note that all lost property will be disposed of regularly. Thank you.

Vaping

Please can I remind our parents that smoking and vaping are banned on our school premises to support our message to children to not partake in vaping and smoking. Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Arrival in school after 9.30am

If a child is late after 9.30am (When the electronic registers have closed and sent to Bolton Council), although they are in school (and are signed in so they are accounted for in the event of an emergency), the session actually counts as absent.

The DfE's Document: "Working together to improve attendance (August 2024)" can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/66bf300da44f1c4c23e5bd1b/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_-_August_2024.pdf states the following:

"Where a pupil has arrived late after the register has closed but before the end of session:

*Schools should actively discourage late arrival, be alert to patterns of late arrival and seek an explanation from the parent. All schools are expected to set out in their attendance policy the length of time the register will be open, **after which a pupil will be recorded as absent**. This should be the same for every session and not longer than 30 minutes."*

Our registers close at 9.30am. Please note that your child will be marked absent if they arrive after this time (and the registers have been submitted). The absence will be unauthorised, unless the circumstances fall under the circumstances which can be authorised which are set out from page 80 of the DfE's regulations.

Our school's Attendance Policy has to follow this guidance and can be found here:

<https://www.ssoarc.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=454&type=pdf>

Cycling to School (Y5/6)

Children will only be allowed to cycle to school if:

- Children dismount at the school gate and walk their bikes on school grounds
- The child wears a helmet.
- The bicycle is in good working order making it safe (eg: the brakes work, the handlebars are on straight, etc)
- Children cycle outside the school grounds with care and attention, obeying traffic laws and not engaging in dangerous behaviour (there will be cycle patrols by staff).
- Children in Year 4 or below should be accompanied by an adult.

If a child fails to comply with these rules, permission to cycle to school will be withdrawn.

This action is to reduce the number of incidents where our children have put themselves at risk.

Lip balm

Children can be allergic to lip balm, and the worry is that if a child who is allergic uses their friend's lip balm. Therefore, lip balm can only be used in school if a parent is able to come in and administer the lip balm (and take the lip balm off site with them when they leave). This can be arranged with the office. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Fidget Toys

Only fidget toys (and [popping mats) supplied by school are the only ones that can be used in school. This is because they are assigned to certain children who our team feel their use will help them concentrate. If your child has not been identified, then their use will usually mean that they distract both themselves and those around them. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Mobile Phones

Please note that only Year 6 children are allowed mobile phones in school without a letter and this is under the strict conditions of the phones not being switched on when in school, and that they must be handed in when children arrive and collected at home time. This includes all events such as discos, etc. Any child breaking this rule will not be allowed to bring their mobile phone into school.

Valuables and Money

Please remember that school does not take any responsibility for loss or damage to valuable items including money, and thus we ask children not to bring them into school.

Sickness in school

Please note guidance of the Health Protection Agency that we follow which states that after a child vomits or has diarrhoea, the recommended period to be kept away from school is 48 hours. More information can be found at: https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/sites/default/files/Guidance_on_infection_control_in%20schools_poster.pdf

PE Kit

Please ensure that your child is wearing the correct PE kit. Football shirts, hoodies and tracksuit tops are NOT school PE uniform and are not to be worn.

The PE kit is:

- White t-shirt (*The school polo shirt can be worn or a 'round neck' white t-shirt*)
- Blue shorts
- Black slip on pumps for indoor lessons
- Black pumps or trainers for outdoor lessons
- Black tracksuit bottoms for (winter) outdoor lessons
- School jumper for outdoor lessons (over the top of the t-shirt)

Sometimes children turn up in a kit for PE that includes branded (eg Nike, Adidas, Puma, etc) t-shirts and tops, hoodies, football shirts, and so on, often without their parents' knowledge.

When it is your child's PE day, please ensure that they come to school in the correct PE kit. If your child is unable to wear the correct kit, please send them with a letter so that we know that you are aware they are wearing something different.

We do not allow make up in school as the principle of other children not being able to afford make up / not being allowed to wear make up applies, as it does to trainers and branded PE kits.

We have said to the children that if they come in trainers, make up and branded tops, this may look bad if seen by the public, for example parents who visit Little Ozzie's who will have a good view of the playground when they enter their premises. Therefore, there is the possibility that we will not allow children onto the playground who are not wearing the correct uniform so that our reputation remains strong in the community.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

All of our reminders and important information can be found on our [website](#).